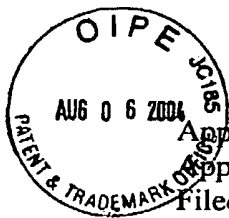


ifw 1773
#



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/161,283 Confirmation No.: 7428
Applicant : MAEKAWA
Filed: : September 28, 1998
TC/A.U. : 1773
Examiner : Kevin R. Kruer
Docket No. : 7372/70988
Customer Nos. : 42798 (Washington, DC) and 22242 (Chicago)

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

August 6, 2004

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 5, 2004, please grant the concurrently filed petition for an extension of time, enter the attached Rule 132 Declaration, and amend this application as follows:

- (1) Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.
- (2) Remarks/arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

Do not enter
8-27-04 KRX